



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 4, 2007

H.R. 1700 **COPS Improvements Act of 2007**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on May 2, 2007

SUMMARY

H.R. 1700 would make many changes to the laws relating to the distribution and permitted uses of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants and would increase the authorization level for this program from \$1.047 billion annually to \$1.15 billion annually through fiscal year 2013 (funding for this program is currently authorized through 2009). Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1700 would cost \$1.5 billion over the 2008-2012 period, with additional amounts spent after 2012. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

H.R. 1700 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1700 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be appropriated by the beginning of each fiscal year, starting with fiscal year 2008, and that outlays will follow the historical spending rates for these activities. We also assume that there will be no additional appropriations enacted for fiscal year 2007 for the COPS program. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for COPS Grants						
Budget Authority/Authorization Level ^a	542	1,047	1,047	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	749	644	717	721	553	366
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	103	103	1,150	1,150	1,150
Estimated Outlays	0	12	41	193	506	784
Spending Under H.R. 1700 for COPS Grants						
Budget Authority/Authorization Level	542	1,150	1,150	1,150	1,150	1,150
Estimated Outlays	749	656	758	914	1,059	1,150

a. The 2007 level is the amount appropriated for that year for COPS grants. The levels shown for 2008 and 2009 are the amounts authorized by current law.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 1700 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. It would alter a program available to those governments for buying equipment, using law enforcement technology, and hiring more police officers. It also would increase the authorization level for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 and would authorize funding for fiscal years 2010 through 2013. Assuming the appropriation of authorized amounts, those governments would receive about \$4.5 billion over the 2008-2012 period. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of receiving federal assistance.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On March 21, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 368, the COPS Improvements Act of 2007, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on March 15, 2007. That bill would increase the authorization level for the COPS program to \$1.15 billion annually through 2009, and we estimated that implementing S. 368 would cost \$190 million over the 2007-2012 period.

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